



**Community  
Services  
Department**  
Connecting People to Opportunities

**PARKS DIVISION**  
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[www.SBParks.org](http://www.SBParks.org)

## **P R E S S R E L E A S E**

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**PARKS No. 15-031**

December 11, 2015  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Cachuma Lake Recreation Activity Calendar** **January 2016**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

Begin the New Year by coming to Cachuma Lake this January. Spend some time after the holidays enjoying peaceful, beautiful surroundings. The lake is open year round for both camping and day use. During winter, bald eagles and other migratory birds can be seen soaring high, perched in trees or on the shorelines. Mule deer often graze on plants right near the lake edge. The spectacular sunsets this time of year are also a sight worth seeing.

Cachuma Lake Recreation Area is a beautiful outdoor destination set amidst oak woodlands in the picturesque Santa Ynez Valley in Santa Barbara County. At Cachuma Lake, you will find practically everything you need for a relaxing lakeside getaway in the great outdoors: Year-round cabin, tent, yurt, and RV camping, boating, boat and kayak rentals, fishing, eagle cruises on the lake, the Neal Taylor Nature Center, bird watching, hiking, photography, picnics, and a general store. Mild temperatures, typically sunny skies, and good fishing conditions make year-round camping here exceptionally rewarding. Located off scenic Highway 154 in the Santa Ynez Valley, Cachuma Lake is midway between the coast of Santa Barbara, area wineries, and the Danish community of Solvang. For easy trip planning, Cachuma Lake takes online reservations; visit the Parks website at [www.sbparks.org](http://www.sbparks.org).

**YEAR-ROUND NATURE PROGRAMS**

**Cachuma Lake Eagle Cruises** –Two-hour cruises are offered mornings 10 a.m. – noon Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, and afternoons, 2 – 4 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays. Santa Barbara County Park Naturalists lead 2-hour cruises that focus on bald eagles, local birds and migratory birds, local wildlife, flora, geology, and Native American and settler history. \$17/adults \$7/kids (4-12 years old; please, no children under 4). Reservations: (805) 568-2460 weekdays, (805) 686-5055 weekends. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Call the Naturalists' office at (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit [www.sbparks.org](http://www.sbparks.org) and click on "Nature Cruises."  
**Please note: There will be no Eagle Cruises on Saturday, January 9, 2016.**

**Cachuma Lake Nature Walk** –Every Saturday, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. (or by scheduled appointment); meet at the Neal Taylor Nature Center. Santa Barbara County Park Naturalists and interpretive guides lead an easy paced ½-mile walk on the Oak Canyon Trail. Free with \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. If you would like to schedule a walk on a different day or time, or have a large group, you are encouraged to call in advance to check availability, (805) 688-4515. Limited to 20 participants - first come, first served.  
**Please note: There will be no Nature Walk on Saturday, January 9, 2016.**

**Cachuma Lake Junior Ranger Program** – Every Saturday, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.; meet at the Nature Center at 12:30 pm sharp - no latecomers please. Kids earn a badge with the help of a Santa Barbara County Park Naturalist as they learn about wildlife and care of the natural environment. \$2 per child, in addition to the \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. We ask groups bringing ten or more participants to call ahead and let us know. Limited to 30 participants - first come, first served. Call (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit the Calendar of Events at [www.sbparks.org](http://www.sbparks.org).  
**Please note: There will be no Jr. Rangers on Saturday, January 9, 2016.**

## **NEAL TAYLOR NATURE CENTER AT CACHUMA LAKE:**

**Neal Taylor Nature Center – Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Located in the historic white ranch house behind the Cachuma Lake General Store. Exhibits and hands-on displays for all ages feature local wildlife, birds, plant life, geology, local history, as well as a gift and book shop. Free admission with \$10 per vehicle Park day use fee. For more information call (805) 693-0691, see park bulletin boards, or visit [www.clnaturecenter.org](http://www.clnaturecenter.org).

**Please note: The Neal Taylor Nature Center will be closed Thursday, December 31 and back open again on Friday, January 1.**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day Book and Treasures Sale: Saturday, January 16, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Come browse through a wide selection of books and other items at excellent prices!

### **Food For Thought Lecture Series: Sunday, January 31, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Topic: TBA**

Food for Thought is a quarterly lecture series offered by the Nature Center for adults interested in learning about topics specific to the local area. Lecturers by experts are held on local topics, such as Native-American culture and language, plants, animals, local history, and the environment. **Free** admission with \$10 per vehicle Park day use fee.

## **OUTDOOR RECREATION AT CACHUMA LAKE:**

**Cachuma Lake Fishing** – Fishing from shore in the campground or from a boat is open all year with a valid fishing license. The lake supports rainbow trout, large- and smallmouth bass, crappie, and channel catfish. Also check the website for the Weekly Fishing Report, and for strict boat inspection and launch requirements to control invasive plants and animals. [www.sbparks.org](http://www.sbparks.org)

**Cachuma Lake Hiking** – There are four miles of trails for self-guided hikes within the Park. Pick up a trail guide at the front gate. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Call (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit [www.sbparks.org](http://www.sbparks.org). Also, within a 15 minute drive of Cachuma, you can access multiple hiking trailheads in Los Padres National Forest.

**Cachuma Lake Marina & Boat Rentals** – Open daily (January 1-31, 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.) Boat rentals, party boats, pontoon boats, kayak & canoe rentals, slip rentals, 1-day fishing licenses and a full bait and tackle are available. Call (805) 688-4040 for prices and specific times. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle.

**Bow Fishing for Carp** – Bow fishing is permitted at Cachuma Lake. Permits are free and obtained at the lake. See [Carp Bow Fishing at Cachuma Lake](http://www.sbparks.org) at [www.sbparks.org](http://www.sbparks.org) for completed information and regulations.

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